GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2504
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2017
Conservation of Ground Water
Chavan Shri Ashok Shankarrao;Gaikwad Dr. Sunil Baliram;Gupta Shri Sudheer;Kirtikar Shri Gajanan Chandrakant;Radhakrishnan Shri T.;S.R. Shri Vijay Kumar;Singh Shri Kunwar Haribansh

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANAGA REJUVENATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has constituted a Committee to suggest ways to conserve fast depleting ground water levels through aquifer recharge in the country particularly drought hit areas such as Marathwada and Bundelkhand, if so, the details and the composition thereof;

(b) the time by which it is likely to submit the report to the Government;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to have a basic framework for the draft model Act/policy aimed at conserving ground, surface and rain water thereby stressing on use of treated water optimally;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the said draft is likely to be finalized; and

(e) the further steps to be taken by the Government to conserve fast depleting ground water levels through aquifer recharge particularly in drought-hit areas?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR WATER RESOURCES, RIVER DEVELOPMENT AND GANGA REJUVENATION

(DR. SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN)

(a) & (b) Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR,RD&GR) had constituted technical teams comprising officers from regional offices of Central Water Commission (CWC), and Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) for an on the spot study of water situation in drought affected areas including Marathwada and Bundelkhand region during 2016. The Technical Teams have suggested various short and long term measures specific to the region/area/states, to mitigate water scarcity situation including construction of water harvesting structures, mass awareness among citizens for water conservation, construction of new water storage structures, interlinking of rivers, renovation and repair of existing water bodies.

(c) & (d) The National Water Policy (2012) formulated by Ministry of Water Resources, RD & GR, inter-alia, advocates conservation, promotion and protection of water and highlights the need for augmenting the availability of water through rain water harvesting, direct use of rainfall, recycle and reuse of water and other management measures. The National Water Policy (2012) has been forwarded to all State Governments/ UTs and concerned Ministries/ Departments of Central Government for adoption.

e) Measures taken to control ground water depletion are available at the following URL http://mowr.gov.in/writereaddata/GW_Depletion.pdf

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